

I claim:

1. An absorbent core for an absorbent article, said absorbent core comprising at least three absorbent layers, a first of said at least three absorbent layers being formed from a stabilized material containing a superabsorbent and having a predetermined basis weight, and said two remaining absorbent layers being positioned below said first absorbent layer, each of said two remaining absorbent layers being formed from a stabilized material containing a superabsorbent and each having a basis weight which is at least equal to said basis weight of said first absorbent layer.
2. The absorbent core of claim 1 wherein each of said two remaining absorbent layers has a basis weight of from about 100 gsm to about 600 gsm.
3. The absorbent core of claim 2 wherein each of said two remaining absorbent layers has a thickness of from about 3 millimeters to about 6 millimeters.
4. The absorbent core of claim 1 wherein each of said two remaining absorbent layers is a separate and distinct layer.
5. The absorbent core of claim 1 wherein said two remaining absorbent layers have a combined basis weight which is at least equal to two times the basis weight of said first absorbent layer.
6. The absorbent core of claim 1 wherein each of said two remaining absorbent layers is formed by folding an absorbent sheet at least twice upon itself.
7. The absorbent article of claim 1 wherein said absorbent core has a fluid retention capacity of from about 10 grams to about 1200 grams.
8. The absorbent core of claim 1 wherein said absorbent core includes at least four absorbent layers, a first of said at least four absorbent layers being formed from a stabilized material containing a superabsorbent and having a predetermined basis weight, and said three remaining absorbent layers are being positioned below said first absorbent layer and have a combined basis weight which is at least equal to

three times said basis weight of said first absorbent layer.

9. The absorbent core of claim 8 wherein said three remaining absorbent layers are formed by folding an absorbent sheet at least two times upon itself.
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10. An absorbent article, comprising:
- a) a liquid permeable liner;
 - b) a liquid-impermeable baffle; and
 - c) an absorbent core having at least four absorbent layers, a first of said at least
- 10 four absorbent layers being positioned between said liner and said baffle and being formed from a stabilized material containing a superabsorbent and having a predetermined basis weight, and at least three of said remaining absorbent layers being positioned between said first absorbent layer and said baffle, each of said at least three remaining absorbent layers being formed
- 15 from a stabilized material containing a superabsorbent and each having a basis weight which is at least equal to said basis weight of said first absorbent layer.
11. The absorbent article of claim 10 wherein said absorbent core has a fluid retention
- 20 capacity of from about 10 grams to about 1200 grams.
12. The absorbent article of claim 11 wherein said absorbent core has a fluid retention capacity of about 50 grams.
- 25 13. The absorbent article of claim 10 wherein said first absorbent layer has a basis weight of from about 100 gsm to about 600 gsm.
14. The absorbent article of claim 10 wherein each of said at least three remaining absorbent layers positioned between said first absorbent layer and said baffle has a
- 30 basis weight of from about 100 gsm to about 400 gsm.
15. The absorbent article of claim 10 wherein said at least three remaining absorbent layers have a combined basis weight which is at least equal to three times said basis weight of said first absorbent layer.

16. The absorbent article of claim 10 wherein said first absorbent layer contains from about 30% to about 85% cellulosic fibers, from about 3% to about 20% binder fibers, and from about 10% to about 60% superabsorbent.
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17. The absorbent article of claim 10 wherein each of said at least three remaining absorbent contains from about 30% to about 85% cellulosic fibers, from about 3% to about 20% binder fibers, and from about 10% to about 60% superabsorbent.
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18. The absorbent article of claim 10 wherein said at least three remaining absorbent layers have a combined basis weight which is a whole number multiple of said basis weight of said first absorbent.
19. A method of forming an absorbent core comprising the steps of:
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- a) forming a first absorbent into a shaped configuration from an elongated strip of a stabilized material having a desired thickness, said stabilized material containing a superabsorbent, and said first absorbent having a predetermined basis weight;
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- b) forming a second absorbent from an elongated strip of stabilized material, said second absorbent including at least three layers having a combined thickness greater than said thickness of said first absorbent, said stabilized material containing a superabsorbent, and said second absorbent having a basis weight which is greater than the basis weight of said first absorbent; and
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- c) positioning said second absorbent directly below and in contact with said first absorbent to form said absorbent core.
20. The method of claim 19 wherein said stabilized material used to form said first and second absorbents is the same composition.
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21. The method of claim 19 wherein said second absorbent comprises at least four layers.
22. The method of claim 19 wherein said second absorbent is folded at least twice to

form the equivalent of three horizontal layers.

23. The method of claim 19 wherein said second absorbent is folded at least three times to form the equivalent of four horizontal layers.

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24. The method of claim 19 wherein said first absorbent comprises at least two layers.

25. The method of claim 19 wherein said second absorbent comprises at least five layers.

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26. The method of claim 19 wherein said second absorbent has a basis weight which is at least two times the basis weight of said first absorbent.

27. The method of claim 19 wherein said second absorbent has a basis weight which is at least three times the basis weight of said first absorbent.

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28. The method of claim 19 wherein said first and second absorbents comprise six separate and distinct layers.

- 20 29. A method of forming an absorbent article comprising the steps of:
- a) forming a first absorbent into a shaped configuration from an elongated strip of a stabilized material, said stabilized material containing a superabsorbent, and said first absorbent having a predetermined basis weight;
 - b) forming a second absorbent from an elongated strip of stabilized material, said stabilized material containing a superabsorbent, said second absorbent including at least four layers having a combined basis weight which is greater than the basis weight of said first absorbent;
 - c) positioning said second absorbent directly below and in contact with said first absorbent to form said absorbent core; and
 - d) enclosing said absorbent core between a liquid permeable liner and a liquid-impermeable baffle.

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